

Amendments to Claims:

Listing of the Claims:

This Listing of the Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) Laminated strip, ~~in particular decorative strip,~~ comprising an upper layer (12) consisting of a thin metal strip, preferably of aluminum, whose upper face (22), constituting an outer face of said laminated strip, has a structure in the form of a three dimensional relief (18) and whose underside (24) is provided with a reinforcement layer (14), wherein:

the reinforcement layer (14) is made of plastic and the reinforcement layer is extrusion-coated on the upper layer (12), which already carries an embossed structure in relief (18).

20. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) Strip in accordance with Claim 19, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the structure in relief has sharp edges.

21. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) Strip in accordance with Claim 19, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the upper layer (12) has a thickness of ≤ 1 mm, ~~preferably~~ ≤ 0.4 mm.

22. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) Strip in accordance with Claim 19, characterized in that wherein the structure in relief (18) has a depth of ≤ 0.5 mm, preferably ≤ 0.2 mm.

23. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) Strip in accordance with Claim 19, characterized in that wherein the reinforcement layer (14) has a thickness of ≤ 1 mm, preferably ≤ 0.6 mm.

24. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) Strip in accordance with Claim 19, characterized in that wherein the reinforcement layer (14) contains fibers, preferably mineral fibers, for reinforcement.

25. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) Strip in accordance with Claim 19, characterized in that wherein the reinforcement layer (14) comprises polyvinylchloride (PVC), acrylnitrilbutadienstyrol (ABS), polyamide (PA) or polypropylene (PP).

26. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) Strip in accordance with Claim 19, characterized in that wherein an additional, transparent plastic layer (16) is arranged on the upper face of the upper layer (12), which additional layer (16) is loosely bonded to the upper layer (12) in such a way as to be detachable by hand. ~~preferably comprises polyvinylchloride (PVC), acrylnitrilbutadienstyrol (ABS), polyamide (PA) or polypropylene (PP).~~

27. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) Strip in accordance with Claim 26, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the additional plastic layer (16) has a thickness of ≤ 0.5 mm, ~~preferably of ≤ 0.2 mm.~~

28. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) Strip in accordance with Claim 19, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a protective varnish is applied to the upper face (22) of the upper layer (12) and/or an adhesive varnish is applied to the underside (24) of the upper layer (12).

29. (Currently Amended) Method for the production of a laminated strip, ~~in particular a decorative strip,~~ comprising an upper layer consisting of metal (12), ~~preferably of aluminum~~ with the method comprising the following steps:

a. Inserting a thin metal strip (12') into an embossing unit (30) to form the upper layer and embossing a structure in the form of a three-dimensional relief (18) into the upper face (22) of the upper layer (12), and

b. then extrusion-coating a reinforcement layer consisting of plastic (24) only on the lower side of the upper layer (12).

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) Method in accordance with Claim ~~[[30]]~~ 35, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the upper layer (12) runs like a loop in the area of the buffer arrangement (50).

32. (Currently Amended) Method in accordance with Claim 29, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein step (b) further comprises the extrusion-coating of an additional plastic layer (16), said additional plastic layer (16) being loosely bonded to the upper layer (12) in such a way as to be detachable by hand.

33. (Currently Amended) Method in accordance with Claim 29, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a protective varnish is applied on the upper face (22) of the upper layer (12) prior to embossing the structure in relief.

34. (Currently Amended) Method in accordance with Claim 29, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein an adhesive varnish is applied to the underside (24) of the upper layer (12) prior to embossing the structure in relief (18).

35. (New) Method in accordance with Claim 29, wherein the reinforcement layer (14) is attached after the upper layer (12) passes through at least one buffer arrangement (50), wherein the buffer arrangement is located after embossing of the structure in relief (18) and prior to attaching the reinforcement layer (14).

36. (New) Method in accordance with Claim 35, wherein the upper layer (12) is stopped during embossing of the structure in relief (18) in the embossing unit (30) employing an upper stamp (32) and a lower stamp (34).

37. (New) A laminated strip according to claim 19 wherein the laminated strip is a decorative strip.

38. (New) A laminated strip according to claim 19 wherein the metal is aluminum.
39. (New) A method according to claim 29 wherein the metal is aluminum.
40. (New) A method according to claim 29 wherein the laminated strip is a decorative strip.
41. (New) A strip in accordance with Claim 19, wherein the upper layer (12) has a thickness of ≤ 0.4 mm.
42. (New) A strip in accordance with Claim 19, wherein the structure in relief (18) has a depth of ≤ 0.2 mm.
43. (New) A strip in accordance with Claim 19, wherein the reinforcement layer (14) has a thickness of ≤ 0.6 mm.
44. (New) A strip in accordance with Claim 19, wherein the reinforcement layer (14) contains mineral fibers for reinforcement.
45. (New) A strip in accordance with Claim 19, wherein an additional, transparent plastic layer (16) is arranged on the upper face of the upper layer (12), wherein the transparent layer comprises polyvinylchloride (PVC), acrylnitrilbutadienstyrol (ABS), polyamide (PA) or polypropylene (PP).

46. (New) A strip in accordance with Claim 26, wherein the additional plastic layer (16) has a thickness of ≤ 0.2 mm.